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Exploration and Discovery.

The Unearthing of the Throne-Room of Nebuchadnezzar.—The German Society for Excavation in the Far East reports the recent discovery by excavation of the throne-room of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia. The chamber is eighteen meters broad and fifty-two meters long, with the entrance opposite the niche in which the throne was placed. On the wall at both sides of the throne, and on the north wall of the room, there appear beautifully colored decorations which are still in a good state of preservation, and which are considered to be a significant addition to the history of ancient art. A facsimile reproduction of the decorations will be published in the *Mittheilungen der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft*. In addition to this discovery at Kasr, the society has also undertaken excavations in the neighborhood of the modern village of Dschumdschuma, and in the short time that work has been going on there a considerable number of clay tablets have already been found, which Dr. Weissbach, the Assyriologist of the expedition, describes as containing letters, psalms, contracts, vocabularies—documents which will awaken the widest interest, and which promise to advance the understanding of the facts and of the language of the Old Testament. The excavations at the hill Amran-ibn-Ali will be resumed soon, and give promise of disclosing many and various finds in connection with this deeply buried pantheon of the Babylonian metropolis, so that valuable reports may be expected frequently from the field of work. The society also is preparing to excavate two other hills by the name of Fara and Abu Hatab, which seem to belong to the pre-Sargonic period, that is, to a time preceding 4000 B. C.; and it is expected that there will be important discoveries made here also for the history of art, and for the earliest history of mankind. These two hills are not far distant from Nippur, the site of the excavations of the American Society, which is also having great success in its work.